## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. 1 (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented system for detecting termination of 2 an application instance using locks, comprising: 3 a holding process configured to obtain a first exclusive lock on an object maintained 4 by the application instance 5 a waiting process configured to (a) request a second exclusive lock on the object 6 after the holding process has been granted the first exclusive lock on the 7 object, and (b) return a result signal, to a monitor process, upon at least one 8 of acquiring the second exclusive lock and ceasing to be blocked; and 9 the monitor process configured to process the result signal to determine whether the 10 application instance has terminated. 1 2. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising: 2 the monitor process determining whether the application instance terminated based. 3 at least in part, on whether the monitor process receives a standard error or a 4 non-standard error from the waiting process. 1 3. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the holding process 2 resides at the same node as the application instance, and where the waiting process 3 does not reside at the same node as the application instance. 4. 1 (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 3, further comprising: 2 a validation module configured to (a) check for termination of the monitored 3 application and (b) signal termination of the monitored application to a cluster 4 service.

1	5.	(Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 3, further comprising:
2		a validation module configured to (a) check for termination of the monitored
3		application and (b) restart the holding process and the waiting process.
1	6.	(Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the application
2		instance is a database service instance.
1	7.	(Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for detecting termination of
2		an application instance using locks, comprising:
3		starting a holding process configured to perform the steps of
4		(a) acquiring a first exclusive lock on an object maintained by the application
5		instance, and
6		(b) returning a ready signal, to a monitor process, upon successfully
7		acquiring the first exclusive lock; and
8		in response to receiving the ready signal, starting a waiting process configured to
9		perform the steps of:
10		(a) connecting to the application instance,
11		(b) requesting a second exclusive lock on the object maintained by
12		application instance, and
13		(c) returning, to the monitor process, a result signal upon at least one of
14		acquiring the second exclusive lock and ceasing to be blocked; and
15		processing the result signal, at the monitor process, to determine whether the
16		application instance has terminated.
1	8.	(Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising:

- determining whether the application instance terminated based, at least in part, on
- whether the monitor process receives a standard error or non-standard error
- 4 from the waiting process.
- 1 9. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the holding process
- 2 resides at the same node as the application instance, and wherein the waiting process
- does not reside at the same node as the application instance.
- 1 10. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising the steps
- 2 of:
- 3 checking for termination of the application instance; and
- 4 signaling termination of the application instance to a cluster service.
- 1 11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising the steps
- 2 of:
- 3 checking for termination of the monitored application; and
- 4 restarting the holding process and the waiting process.
- 1 12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the application
- 2 instance is a database server instance.
- 1 13. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more
- 2 sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes
- 3 the one or more processors to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 7.
- 1 14-26. (Cancelled).

- 1 27. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions,
- which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors
- 3 to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 8.
- 1 28. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions,
- which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors
- 3 to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 9.
- 1 29. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions,
- which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors
- 3 to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 10.
- 1 30. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions,
- which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors
- 3 to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 11.
- 1 31. (New) A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions,
- 2 which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors
- 3 to perform the steps of method recited in Claim 12.